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Submissions are due always, constantly, so submit forever. You can submit in rich text or plain text format by CD, Flash Drive, singing telegram, carrier pigeon, paper airplane, Fed-Ex, Pony Express, or email. Get your submissions to omen@hampshire.edu, or Chloe's mailbox (0369)

Policy

The Omen is a biweekly publication that is the world's only example of the consistent application of a straightforward policy: we publish all signed submissions from members of the Hampshire community that are not libelous. Send us your impassioned yet poorly-thought-out rants, self-insertion fan fiction, MS Paint comics, and whiny emo poetry: we'll publish it all, and we're happy to do it. The Omen is about giving you a voice, no matter how little you deserve it. Since its founding in December of 1992 by Stephanie Cole, the Omen has hardly ever missed an issue, making it Hampshire's longest-running publication.

Your Omen submission (you're submitting right now, right?) might not be edited, and we can't promise any spellchecking either, so any horrendous mistakes are your fault, not ours. We do promise not to insert comical spelling mistakes in submissions to make you look foolish.

Your submission must include the name you use around campus: an open forum comes with a responsibility to take ownership of your views. (Note: Views expressed in the Omen do not necessarily reflect the views of the Omen editor, the Omen staff, or anyone, anywhere, living or dead.)

The Omen staff consists of whoever shows up for Omen layout, which usually takes place on alternate Thursday nights in the basement of Merrill in the company of a computer with an extremely inadequate monitor. You should come. We don't bite. You can find the Omen on other Thursdays in Saga, the post office, or on the door of your mod.

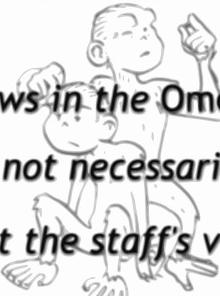


THE OFFICIAL OMEN HAIKU:

Views in the Omen (5)

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EDITORIAL

Chloe Anne Omelchuck

It seems like a shame to spend the color issue doing writing for my editorial, so I think that I'll use artwork instead (that, and I have already spent far too many hours in the Omen office dealing with potential legal issues).

The thing I've always liked about art is that I can spend hours working on it and not get bored. Of course, that is also art's curse; because I end up working on it for far longer than is healthy for my sleeping habits. I hope you enjoyed the cover, it is for that which I am still here at 2:30 (am, not pm).



Section Speak

The Abnormal 2016 Narrative, And What It Masks

by Simon Fields

2016 is such a strange election! Donald Trump is unstable, he's more of a corporatist than a conservative -- it's hard to believe that someone with so many Confederate Flag waving supporters could be leading the Party of Lincoln. Hillary Clinton is untrustworthy, she did some interesting (at best) things with her private email server, she's more of a corporatist than a progressive -- it's hard to believe that someone with Goldman Sachs support could lead the Party of Franklin Roosevelt. There's no knowing what will happen. It's so unpredictable. And there's so much at stake! This is a high stakes election. A cross roads. We can either go one direction or the other.

Hang on though. I've been following Presidential Elections since I was a nine year old desperate to see Kerry prevail in 2004, and there's always so much at stake! We're always at a crossroads. This election always matters more than the other elections...

I was originally going to focus this article entirely on Donald Trump. Then I thought I would write a more balanced article, and then I wound up focusing a great deal on Mr. Trump anyway. He's got a magnetic quality -- he just attracts criticism, what can I say?

I was starting to write about the narrative surrounding his candidacy -- that it's abnormal; how it's true, and how it isn't, and the function that his nutty candidacy plays in absolving Republicans of a variety of things -- and indeed, the function that it plays in absolving American society of a few other things. I was just starting to write about this, when the Vice Presidential debate began, which was fascinating from the vantage point of someone trying to distinguish between how strange Trump is, and how eerily Trump-esque other GOP

standard-bearers have been.

Why was that debate a great study of this phenomenon? Well, in the V.P. Debate, you had a much more conventional Republican than Donald Trump; don't be mistaken, a genuine right winger, but a guy whose homespun and charming and says the phrase "common sense" enough to reassure moderates, and perhaps even get elected. Pence found himself denying that Trump's more outrageous statements were ever made. He even denied a statement of his own. Now look, the fact that a conventional GOP running mate would run away from those statements and actions (such as self-dealing, refusing to pay contractors, and praising Putin) is a sign that Trump is indeed a very strange Republican.

When he started out, many of his opponents called Trump a "Fascist." I was one of the people who felt that, although the word Fascist is often overused and should not be used lightly, it may have applied to the Donald. Not Hitler style exterminate the Jews Fascism (though a disturbing number of his supporters are in that camp), but Fascism lite -- in the vein of Francisco Franco or Oswald Mosley. But a friend of mine who may be even further to the left than I am convinced me that Trump's a "right wing populist", not a "fascist." And as he garnered more support, people began to drop the "Fascism" charge; it's hard to call all of those American Trump supporters Fascists. I certainly couldn't call a Trump supporting friend in L.A. a Fascist. And besides, Trump could never become a Fascist Dictator. Our Democratic Republic has institutions that have maintained stability, and the U.S. Constitution for more than two centuries. Donald Trump won't become a strongman. He may try, but would Congress let him do it? Well, it'll probably be Republican controlled, but they still wouldn't want him taking too much power away from their branch of government. Would the Courts? Well, he'd probably nominate at least one person on the Supreme Court, but that nominee's

fellow conservatives might join forces with the liberals to block egregious expansions of Presidential powers... Nevermind. Trump can't be a Fascist. Let's just say he's authoritarian.

But before we look at Trump's authoritarianism -- and look at the authoritarian attitudes and assumptions that are far more pervasive than many people would care to admit, let's just take one last look at Trump's (alleged) Fascism. I was watching a video the other day, of Oswald Mosley (the leader of the 1930s British Fascist Movement) getting interviewed by David Frost in the 1960s. What I found chilling about the interview wasn't some sort of foaming at the mouth fanaticism; on the contrary, it was Mosley's calm and calming tone -- the fact that he was even getting interviewed in the 1960s -- he and his views were too damn close to being respectable, you see. On the issue of Parliament he sounded like an old fashioned democrat. He said that he was always in favor of keeping Parliamentary Democracy. (The fact that a man who aspired to be a Fascist Dictator could be comfortable with [what would certainly have been] a farcical version of "Representative Democracy" raises questions about how democratic that model really is, and how much room there is for Fas-- I mean, authoritarianism to creep in.)

In response to charges of anti-Semitism, Mosley said that he was only really saying that many Jews, "understandably" wanted a war with Germany. Understandably -- I think that's the word that he used, which was certainly a very empathetic turn of phrase, 20-30 years after holding Fascist Rallies in East End neighborhoods where many Jews lived, that often turned violent.

Which brings us to incitement to violence and freedom of speech: the part of the interview which really resonated with me was when Mosley started talking about his freedom of speech. Hecklers who interrupted Mosley's rallies (mind you, while exercising their freedom of speech) were impeding his freedom of speech. Therefore it was perfectly okay (he essentially said, and quite calmly in

the 1960s) for his movement to have Black Shirts roughing up hecklers. Does this sound familiar? "Punch him in the face." "I'll pay his legal fees."... But back to Mosley and his logic, even Fascists can defend freedom of speech when it applies to them, and when they feel that their freedom of speech is so important that they can use violence in response to other people exercising the same exact freedom because disagreeing voices are trampling on their expressive rights.

Okay, let's call Donald Trump Authoritarian. Because Donald Trump is only an authoritarian. His ex-wife has alleged that he had Mein Kampf or Hitler speeches on his nightstand but a. she may have wanted to ruin his reputation, and b. he may have been reading those book(s) in order to understand Hitler, rather than as a source for inspiration. Fair enough. Even in the example of violence at rallies, Trump may have incited violence -- using the same logic about his freedom of speech that Mosley had used, but in all fairness he didn't organize violence. Come to think of it, Mr. Trump isn't organized enough to be a Fascist. I forget who pointed this out, but have you noticed what they said about Mussolini: Mussolini could make the trains run on time. Saying that about Trump may be giving him too much credit ... Okay, Mr. Trump isn't a Fascist.

That being said, Mr. Trump is authoritarian. The issue is that he isn't alone. His supporters aren't alone. Our society -- which may be the freest in the World, is quite capable of being authoritarian. Historically speaking, this is a society which gave people property rights that were so strong that they had the legal ability to own, and completely control the lives of other people. This is a society which didn't only take Native American land, from sea to shining sea, but also a society which relegated Indigenous Peoples to reservations; and in an early effort to better the lives of people on reservations, the Dawes Act of 1887 privatized Indian land and since only men had the right to own private property, deprived women of their land. In fact, the Dawes Act deprived tribes of half of the land that they previously had on reservations. That's when we were helping Native Americans. Not to mention that European

Colonizers tried to help Native Americans by forcing them to convert to Christianity; eventually Americans would try to get Native Americans to wear more "American" clothing, and to speak English, and -- well we were trying to help afterall. We knew what was best for them...

That's really where Authoritarianism begins. Whenever one group or individual knows what is best for another group or individual, and imposes this on the ignoramus who just doesn't know any better. And to paraphrase Mr. Trump: The inner cities are hell. Black on black crime is dreadful. We need to restore Law and Order (including racial profiling) in order to help the people in the inner cities. Okay, that's how Trump puts it.

But how do other people put it? Respect. You've got to respect me. You need to earn respect from me, but you have to show me respect (in other words, I don't have to earn it from you). That sort of thinking is everywhere, and even when it applies to children, it's ever so slightly one sided.

That reminds me of Trump's Law and Order mantra. He constantly talks about Law and Order, but I think it has less to do with laws and more to do with his future order. Why do I see it this way? Well, for starters, Trump may have broken the law, with his fraudulent university, with pay to play (when he was on the paying end -- see Pam Bondi), with self dealing (with money from his foundation and even from his campaign), incitement to violence, encouraging a foreign power to practice espionage and meddle in our elections [1], and even (gasp) widespread employment (and exploitation) of undocumented workers. Lock him up! (This would be the perfect segway to Hillary Clinton, but there's one last important point to make about Trump's Law and Order mantra).

Mr. Trump has, at various times, proposed policies that would violate the U.S. Constitution; he's walked away from some of these proposals, but not all of them. He has said that we should close off sections of the internet, which would violate our Constitutional right to freedom of expression. In fairness, Hillary Clinton (and yes, we'll get to Hillary Clinton) has said the same thing less explicitly.

Mr. Trump also, quite famously called for banning all Muslim immigrants from entering the country, which violates the first amendment's religious freedom clause. He has walked this back by saying that he would ban people from specific countries (that have large Muslim populations). This would technically be Constitutional, but he has also said that there may be ideological tests to determine "whether people respect the Bill of Rights". Besides the fact that this sounds dangerously close to thought control, let's just remember who is saying this: Donald Trump. Somebody who proposed violating the first amendment in two ways, and who also proposed violating the Fourteenth amendment (by deporting natural born U.S. citizens -- who are entitled to "equal protection of the laws" and "due process" according to the Fourteenth Amendment [2] [granted it isn't in the Bill of Rights but it's one of the most important amendments to the Constitution]); the Eighth Amendment (by bringing back what Trump bluntly called torture, even though torture would definitely fall under the category of "cruel and unusual punishment"), etc. Need I even go on?

But what about our system of government? Does it have some overly Authoritarian elements? Certain people in the military were saying, don't worry, we won't follow orders to torture people because that would violate the Geneva Convention, and the Constitution. Yes but, the thing is that the U.S. Government did practice torture under the Bush Administration, and the idea that Obama put an end to torture is debateable. What about NSA surveillance? What about the fact that Presidents have the authority to be Judge, Jury, and Executioner through the Drone Program, and through JSOC raids? Or the fact that President Obama used that authority to kill two American citizens? What about all of the emphasis we put on leadership and leaders throughout our society? And in Washington D.C., brave leadership is a polite way of saying that it's okay for public officials to ignore public opinion, because they know what's best for us.

People criticize politicians for listening to polls on certain issues. A Princeton study (which looked at 1,779 policy issues from 1980 to 2000) found that when one fifth

of the top 10% of income earners support a policy, it gets adopted 18% of the time. When four fifths of the top 10% of income earners support a policy, it gets adopted 45% of the time. On the other hand, regardless of how much support (or how little support) the bottom 90% of income earners have for any given policy, it always gets adopted about 33% of the time. The common folks in this country have (to quote the study) a “minimal, near zero causal impact on public policy.” And the problem is that politicians are listening to opinion polls too much? Really? I think the problem is that there’s too much leadership. And not only from individual politicians. Politicians listen to other leaders far too often. Business leaders. Pundits. Other politicians. Unelected bureaucrats. CEOs. Oh wait, I already mentioned business leaders, but they have a pretty big effect on policy; after all, somebody needs to fork up campaign money. [3].

And of course, people are fed up with this. People know that their voices aren’t being heard, people know that Hillary Clinton is part of the establishment, and they turn to Trump. Mr. Trump is also part of the establishment. He boasts about the fact that he’s bought off politicians, that he’s one of the puppeteers. I know the system. I know the tax code, and campaign finance. I know how to corrupt things. Let me guard the hen house.

Ah, but Hillary Clinton knows the system better. She’s been in politics “for the last 30 years”. Well, it’s a fair point. But if anything, (I think I heard someone else put it this way, but I don’t remember who to attribute it to -- it may have been somebody on TYT) Hillary Clinton is the corrupted, and Donald Trump is the corrupter. Some people gravitate to the person who poisons the well, rather than the person who drinks the water. That’s strange.

That being said, enough about Trump. Time to move onto Hillary Clinton. I’m not pretending to be balanced about these two candidates, I’ve already devoted way too much space criticizing Trump to give equal time to Clinton. The fact is that, for all of my grievances with Hillary Clinton, and I have many, I have far fewer grievances about her than I do about Donald Trump.

But Hillary Clinton did tell Goldman

Sachs Executives that banks should regulate themselves. She said that the retirement age for Social Security should be raised, even though she must know that the Social Security Trust Fund would be solvent for many decades if we simply abolish the payroll cap (she must know this because that’s the solution she publicly supports). Which brings me to another point, and this really speaks to Clinton’s authoritarianism -- she said that it’s important to have a public position, and a private position. This is authoritarian because it implies that at times leaders should mislead the public about their intentions, because they know what’s best. She almost certainly has different public and private positions on the Trans Pacific Partnership.

Even when she was making policy proposals that I agree with (in these speeches to Corporate America) one has to question why she felt comfortable telling the people paying her speaking fee (and her potential future donors) about those policies. For instance, when Hillary Clinton was speaking in Detroit, she talked about her support for a single payer health care system. I also support a single payer health care system. But the widespread support for single payer health care among progressives is probably not what prompted her to speak about the issue in Detroit.

The auto industry has realized that Canada’s [Medicare for all] health care system, which is just over the border, is considerably cheaper for companies than employer provided health care. Did Hillary Clinton talk about this in a paid speech to a Pharma Company, or an Insurance Company? Well, not as far as I know. She only talked about Single Payer Health Care (recently -- in fairness she did publicly support and lead efforts to create a Single Payer System in 1994) when she was speaking to an industry that is friendly to the idea.

On the other hand, she’s a politician. And this is how politicians operate. Obama, Bush II, Clinton I, Bush I, Saint Reagan, they all put industry insiders in charge of regulating the same industries they worked in before moving to D.C. (and after they left). They all pushed for Trade Deals, and many of those trade deals harmed workers in America and in other countries.

Clinton is not abnormally corporatist,

or corrupt. She should definitely apologize for having a private email server, and for deleting 30,000 emails (instead of blandly referring to mistakes). But this isn’t abnormal either. When Mitt Romney was Governor of Massachusetts, he wiped his email servers too. (And one of his books was called No Apologies). This wasn’t a big deal in 2012. The Bush Administration “lost” 22 Million emails. 30,000 is a small fraction of 22 million. But 30,000 is still 30,000 too many. Way too many. And the fact that Clinton’s corporatism -- and corruption is the norm says a lot about our system. Once again, the idea of abnormality -- in this case the idea that Clinton is abnormally corrupt, is beneficial to the status quo.

What about Trump though? He knows that the system is rigged. He isn’t a typical politician. But I’d argue that he’ll be even friendlier to Corporate America than Clinton. He would bring tax rates down for wealthy individuals and companies. This isn’t odd for a Republican candidate running for President. But he would cut taxes for the rich far more than most GOP candidates. Trump tax cuts could cost anywhere from 1 to 30 Trillion dollars, depending on whose analysis you use to calculate their cost. Clinton would (theoretically -- if she had a Democratic Congress) raise taxes on the wealthy, and use it to provide students from families making less than 125k a year with free tuition at public colleges -- man, I sort of wish this could have happened before I started going to college. She would also (theoretically) fix the Social Security Trust Fund by raising the cap on Payroll Tax. Trump currently says he’ll keep Social Security intact, but in the past he’s called for privatizing Social Security, and his running mate loves the idea of privatization.

And what about Trade? This is the issue where I thought that I agreed with Trump. Afterall, Trump makes himself look like a protectionist. NAFTA is the worst deal ever. Japan and China are killing us with Trade. We now know that Hillary lied and she called TPP the Gold Standard. Alright, that sounds pretty good to the protectionist camp’s perspective. And then he says another thing that sounds pretty good. We’re going to renegotiate NAFTA -- great, but then he says, If we can’t renegotiate it, we’ll terminate NAFTA. Well, I’m not sure if that

squares with International Law, after all it is a treaty... But listen carefully to what he says next, which addresses what comes after NAFTA and TPP. We're going to negotiate new trade deals. And we're going to be better at negotiating trade deals. Nowadays people make campaign donations and then they get put in charge of negotiating. There are many brilliant people, some of them are for me and yes some of them for Hillary, in the Business World who negotiate large deals [between companies] all of the time, and they should be put in charge of negotiating the next deal. The people we have are incompetent. Did you catch that? Trump's going to recruit people involved in business who negotiate large deals, so in other words, he wants big business to craft our trade deals. He wants more Corporate influence in our trade policy, not less.

Very often, what is more important than what someone opposes are the reasons someone uses to oppose something. With Trump, the reason that he opposes U.S. trade policy is that America is getting ripped off by Mexico, China, Japan, etc. The truth is, if you look at NAFTA (for instance), Mexicans didn't benefit from American suffering. Mexicans and Americans suffered (I don't know much about its effects in Canada, but you might find a similar story) while multinational corporations were making a fortune. For instance, as Trump would point out, many American manufacturing jobs were moved South of the Border to the Maquiladoras. A large volume of the increased "trade" was actually within multinational corporations -- who moved production to one side of the border, and shipped products to another. This counts as an increase in "trade" even though it's intrafirm trade, and there really isn't any transaction with a second party.

Okay, so at the surface level, American workers lost their jobs to Mexican workers. However, I saw one study which showed that while the Mexican minimum wage covered most of the cost of living in the early 1980s, by the late 1990s/ early 2000s it only covered around one fifth of the cost of living. And there were many health problems in certain Maquiladoras because workers were ruthlessly exposed to chemicals at work, and in some cases those same chemicals were dumped near the communities where they

lived. Their children were also affected by the toxic waste.

But even if you accept the argument that any job created, regardless of its pay (even when compared to pay in the same area and how high or low it was before the policy that created the job), regardless of its conditions, benefits the person who got that job, NAFTA still harmed many Mexicans. Especially Mexican farmers, who were forced to compete with subsidized American farmers (and large scale agribusinesses). They were put at an immense disadvantage, and many of these farmers were impoverished by unfair competition. Some poor farmers decided that they could not make a living legitimately, and turned to the drug cartels. Some poor farmers went legally and illegally to America for better opportunities. Some remained on their farms, and continued to struggle there. So who benefited from NAFTA, the American people or the Mexican people? Neither, generally speaking. Just certain people in each country. American Agribusiness and Mexican Manufacturers, and also many American Manufacturers who moved their factories to Mexico, benefited from NAFTA. These deals aren't mainly a problem of nations ripping each other off, but of classes ripping each other off.

The solution to such a problem isn't giving Corporate Elites more power in writing trade deals that are already far too favorable to their companies. But of course, such a solution would be perfect for Donald Trump, a Billionaire who owns many companies, and who gets his neck ties and the steel for his towers made in China, and whose only excuse is, "I was allowed to do it." Really? And having more Corporate people negotiate your trade deals won't make it even easier?

So even on Trade, Trump isn't an abnormally Protectionist Republican (and indeed, before 1931 being a protectionist Republican was the norm), he just talks a good protectionist game, and that's probably why the race in Ohio is so tight. But Ohioans, (that is to say, the two Ohioans who read *The Omen*) take note -- Trump trade deals will probably screw you just as badly as Clinton deals.

There is a tendency to bemoan the fact that Trump is unconventional. That isn't

the problem -- we need unconventional approaches to policy -- the problem is that Trump is unconventional in the wrong ways. His racism is fairly overt, which upsets Republican politicians who have deployed more covert "dog whistle" style racism since the days of Nixon's Southern Strategy. Trump's covert racism has one big problem for Republican politicians -- it embarrasses them. There is another big problem with his overt racism that Minority groups have to deal with -- bigotry is becoming respectable. Open bigotry. And many of Trump's supporters in the Alt Right are much worse than he is. "White Nationalists" (White Supremacists), Neo Confederates, Neo Nazis -- Trump is their hero because he is giving a megaphone to their whacky views, especially when he re-tweets things from White Supremacist Accounts.

What about some of the Republicans who are uncomfortable with him? McCain aired ads which made Obama's skin look slightly more black than it actually was (which really shouldn't be negative, but in the context of racist attitudes in our country it was a subtle way to play to those attitudes); in all fairness when a woman told McCain that Obama was a Muslim, McCain told her that Obama was a patriotic family man who he had differences with. Even that was problematic, because the implication was that if Obama were a Muslim, he couldn't have been a patriotic family man -- he would have automatically been an Islamist with some secret agenda to promote Sharia Law, or worse. But McCain was defending Obama. He should have been clearer about the fact that many Muslim Americans love their country, but sometimes when you are on stage, you don't think of everything you need to say.

Speaking of McCain, in 2000, the Bush Campaign circulated rumors, in South Carolina, that McCain secretly fathered a Black girl. When McCain said that the Confederate Flag should no longer be flying at South Carolina's State Capitol, Bush talked about the importance of State's Rights. (But that didn't matter, in the General Election Bush talked about how, "the greatest Civil Rights issue is education" and then he may have won, or stolen the election... In addition to many sketchy things that happened after the election,

under brother Jeb's watch [the guy people have been feeling sympathy for in this election] 20,000 Black voters were purged from the voting rolls, on the grounds that they had the same names as felons, even though they were law abiding citizens. Bush Sr. aired the Willie Horton Ad, which some interpreted as a racist dog whistle. Saint Reagan talked about "welfare queens" as if they were all a bunch of lazy black women who were doing quite well for themselves. Nixon had his Southern Strategy, and guess what a large part of that strategy was? Talking about Law and Order (and State's Rights). A year after race riots in Los Angeles, Nixon said that we need to restore Law and Order. Nevermind the fact that once he was in office, Nixon didn't think that the law applied to him -- he later said as much: "When the President does it, that means that it is not illegal."

This was originally going to be about more superficial aspects of the campaign, and how focused the Media has been on the narrative that this is a strange election. I also was going to mention that Trump has used this to his advantage on a few occasions, by pretending to be even more unconventional than he really is. He hinted at skipping the debates, but he wound up going to all three. It was a great way to generate headlines, even though Trump must have known that as the candidate behind in the polls, he had little choice but to go to the debates.

Trump has made himself a living caricature in order to get media attention, which has made it tempting for opponents to make him look even more ridiculous than he really is. For instance, in Funny or Die's "Art of the Deal" parody, Trump had never seen Citizen Kane and somebody was explaining the plot to him, drawing parallels between Charles Foster Kane and Donald J. Trump. But there's a fascinating video of Donald Trump discussing Citizen Kane, making surprisingly self aware observations -- perhaps even drawing some parallels. [4].

"You had the table getting larger and larger and larger with he and his wife getting further and further apart. As he got wealthier and wealthier. Perhaps I can understand that...In real life I believe that wealth does in fact isolate you from other people." Wow. What if the Art of the Deal parody used Trump discussing Citizen Kane

as a moment for that kind of powerful self-reflection which actually happened? Well, what's more believable? The Trump who watched Citizen Kane and saw parallels to his own life, or the brash unapologetic Trump who would never watch Citizen Kane in the first place? Well, you know the answer, but it's really Trump's fault that the less accurate answer is more believable. The most recent Kane-Trump parallel happened in the second Debate, when Trump said that he would appoint a special prosecutor to investigate Clinton, and when he even said, "that's because you'd be in jail." Not unlike Charlie Kan's stump speech: "Well I'd make my promises now, if I weren't too busy arranging to keep them. Here's one promise I'll make, and Boss Jim Gettys knows I'll keep it: My first official act as Governor of this State, will be to appoint a special District Attorney, to arrange for the indictment, prosecution, and conviction of Boss Jim W. Gettys!"

Alright, alright, what about Hillary Clinton? If Donald Trump is unconventional in all of the wrong ways, Hillary Clinton is too conventional. Not only in how she does things as a politician, but from my perspective, also in her thinking. And let me be clear about where I'm coming from: I believe we need to redirect corporate subsidies towards creating worker cooperatives. I believe that we need monetary reforms, we need to end fractional reserve banking and nationalize the Federal Reserve. I believe we need to bring back controls on capital movements for the sake of economic stability and in order to reduce the leverage that multinational corporations have over governments and over labor movements. I believe that we need to look at radically reforming, or even replacing institutions such as the IMF, the World Bank, and the WTO. I also think that the CIA and other Intelligence Agencies need to be limited to collecting intelligence -- and that combining intelligence collection/analysis with covert operations in the same agency is a dangerous concentration of power -- especially since so much of this happens away from the public eye. (And I also think that the NSA should focus on surveilling terrorists, and should obtain a warrant for surveillance of any new suspected terrorist, rather than

collecting metadata about everybody. In. The. U.S.). From my perspective, we do need an unconventional approach to policy. Trump offers an unconventional approach in style, but he offers very little substance on anything and the little substance he does offer (for instance, slashing tax rates for the wealthy, rolling back EPA regulations, deporting some illegal immigrants but wink wink, after we're done deporting them we'll decide about everyone else, bring back torture, ban Muslims from entering the U.S. or the new position -- "extreme vetting", bring back stop and frisk, etc.) is very, very disturbing. And unlike Trump, I don't think that Hillary Clinton would make things get worse. That's why she has my vote (a pretentious sentence, because it doesn't really matter how a Californian like me winds up voting) but she doesn't really have my confidence. And that isn't because the FBI may reopen its investigation, (the FBI knows a lot more about this than I do, but there are reports that none of the emails that they're looking at came from Hillary Clinton's private server, and that they may be duplicates of emails that the FBI has already examined). No, the reason that Hillary Clinton has not won my confidence is because it seems that she thinks the same way her husband thinks, and the same way that other recent Presidents from both parties have been thinking (controversies between Presidents and Parties seem to be limited to certain wedge issues, while a variety of policy proposals are never even discussed). On the other hand, at least she seems friendlier to the idea of disclosing information about Aliens, and UFOs (or as she gently corrected Jimmy Kimmel, UAPs). And that's one abnormality in this election that is quite promising...

Sources:

- 1.<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/07/trump-putin-no-relationship-226282>
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ORDER FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION <i>A TRUE COPY</i> ATTEST		DOCKET NUMBER 1680CV00164	Trial Court of Massachusetts The Superior Court 
CASE NAME: <i>Gregory Jekanowski, Jr.</i> Amitabho Chattopadhyay vs. Hampshire College et al CLERK MAGISTRATE		Harry Jekanowski, Jr., Clerk of Courts	
PARTY(S) WHO IS SUBJECT TO THIS ORDER FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION Hampshire College		COURT NAME & ADDRESS Hampshire County Superior Court 15 Gothic Street P.O. Box 1119 Northampton, MA 01061	
<p>Upon the application of</p> <p>Plaintiff: Chattpadhyay, Amitabho</p> <p>this action came before Hon. Mark D Mason, J., presiding, and upon actual notice to the parties as required by Mass. R. Civ. P. 65, and after a hearing and consideration thereof,</p> <p>It is ORDERED and ADJUDGED:</p> <p>That the party(s) named above and their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys and counselors, and upon those persons in active concert or participation with them, and each and every one of them are:</p> <p>preliminary enjoined from continuing the formal conduct hearing, commenced on 10/27/16, to a date not before 11/4/16.</p>			
DATE ISSUED 10/26/2016	ASSOCIATE JUSTICE Hon. Mark D Mason	CLERK MAGISTRATE/ASST. CLERK <i>X Harry Jekanowski, Jr.</i>	SESSION PHONE# SCV125 671216

Date/Time Printed: 10-26-2016 10:01:22

^submitted by: Amy Chattpadhyay

A Letter from Shelley Rosen (graduated omen staff, omen staff are never truly "retired")

Hey Omenites,

I saw that you started posting issues on the online archives again and it made me happy. [<http://bork.hampshire.edu/~omen>] I also heard that you had some absurd drama get submitted that may or may not be in an issue and that made me happy too.

I'm writing to convince you to make a Twitter.

I think what's cool about the Omen is that terrible inside jokes from the distant past made by weirdo libertarians get to live on being perpetuated by gay kids with mental health problems for the sake of tradition. though also I'm some kind of librarian type person who likes the preservation of old things.

A lot of Omen Alumni use twitter and we have a little community going and it's cool. Twitter is better than Facebook and Tumblr because people aren't TERRIBLE on it (As Much.)

It's kind of a tradition that Omen Alumni follow current omen staff on twitter in order to keep up with the Omen and Hampshire drama and also to check up on you and give out good life advice and you can indulge us by listening to enriching stories and anecdotes of what Hampshire or the Omen was like in 2012 or 2006 or whenever (the truth is mostly everything stays the same).

Where did that snorkel in the Omen office come from? Who IS the Monolith and why do we serve it? Who is Ralph Hexter? Why is there

a naked anime girl on the wall and what do SpongeBob, Hello Kitty and Avengers Babies have to do with it?

Join Omen Twitter and find out all that and more stuff you never asked to learn about!!

Follow me: @InfoGab_ and tell me yr an omen baby and I'll post a traditional Tagging Literally Every Omen Alumni tweet to alert the horde of nosy old people to your presence. I genuinely believe you won't regret it.

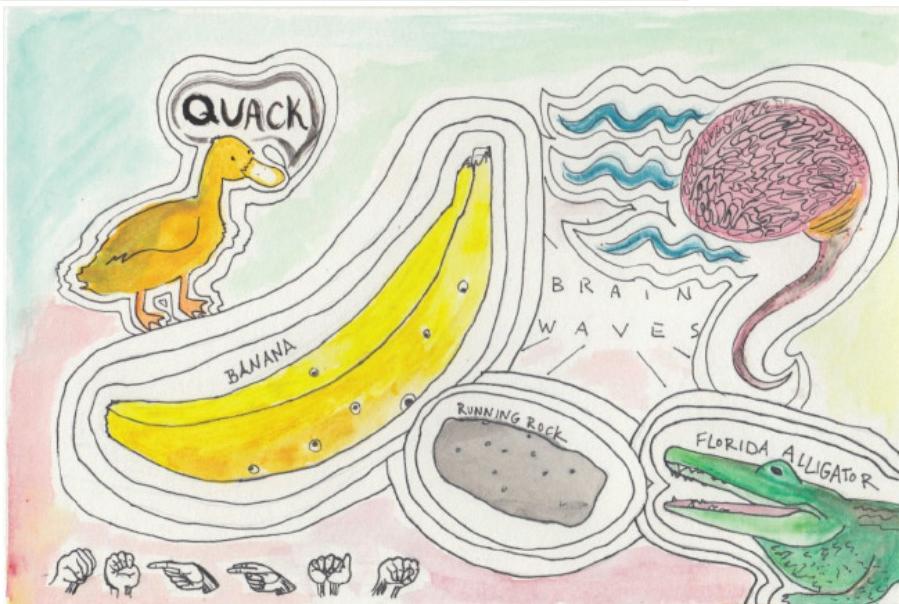
But only if your cool tho ;)

Anyway, bye omen babies, go check out issue 46.4 for all of my advice for you that was supposed to be published in issue 47.1. As Always, Archive Everything. Listen to Eurovision. Ignore Student Government. And Execute the Students.

Xoxoxo,
Shelley

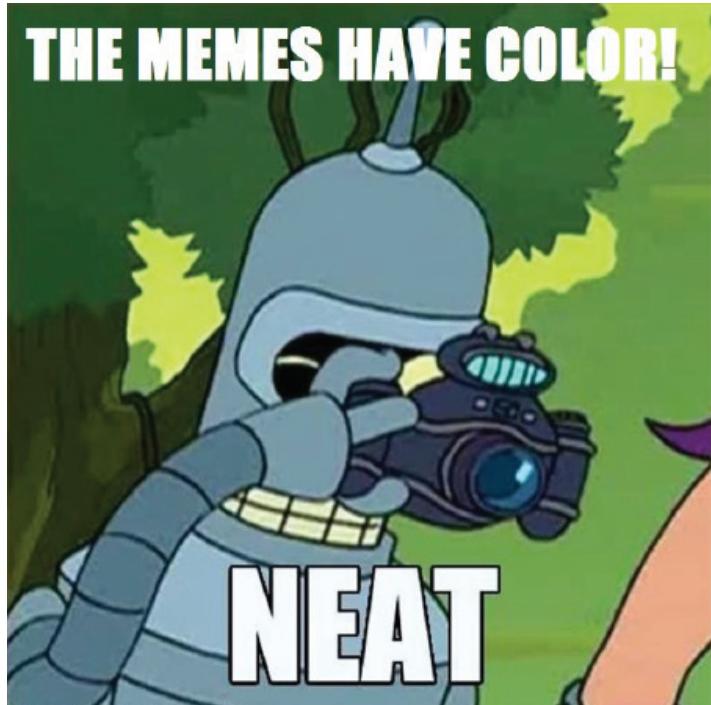
P.S. Congrats to JGard for returning to the Omen!!! I'm so glad you're there to help oversee the Omen as it transitions to a new generation of seemingly random students who will slowly discovery the mysterious shared experience that ties their destinies together. You're their Luna the Cat from Sailor Moon. Or that old guy from Digimon. I'm relieved all those jokes about being Interim editors until the prophesied return of JGardz The True Editor weren't ultimately in bad taste.

Congratulations to our graduates! We'll miss you! -The XC Team



Submissions by: Chloe Omelchuck

SECTION LIES



^Submitted by: Bryan Prieto



submitted by: Spencer Wood



^submitted by: Rejjia Camphor

I feel tired

a short song by Simon Fields

This parody, "I feel tired" is based on the song, "I feel pretty" (from the West Side Story.) I wrote the first version of this parody when I was fourteen, but alas I lost those lyrics, so this is going by memory. While I was merely conveying fatigue and teenage angst at the time, I think that this can resonate with all seven of our readers, given the progress of the semester, and given the fact that this election seems to never end (though there are just a few more days left at the time this is being written, and there may only be one day left when we publish). Please enjoy: And if you don't enjoy, well, do everyone a favor and stop reading at the precise moment that you realize the song sucks. Thanks.

I feel tired,
Oh, so tired,
I feel tired and wired today!
And I pity
Any guy who's like me tonight.
I feel awkward,
Oh, so awkward
It's alarming how awkward I feel!
And so tired
That I hardly can believe I'm real.
See those lines underneath my eyes:
And I'm only fourteen!
Such a tired face,
Such a tired back,
Such a tired mind,
Such a tired me!
I feel numbing,
And taxing,
Feel like collapsing for joy,
For Middle School and VBI debate camp
Are sucking my blood!
Friends:
Have you met my good friend Simon,
The sleepiest guy on the block?
You'll know him the minute you see him,
He's the one who is in an advanced state of
shock.
He thinks he has it bad now.
He thinks it's a pain,
He thinks that it's hell
His problems are really inane
(At this point)
It must be the beat
Or some rare T.V.,

Or too much to eat
Or maybe it's fleas.
Keep away from him,
Send for the Marines
This is not the
Simon we've known!

I feel tired,
Oh, so tired
That I should retire quite young.
A desert island
Should become my new home.
La la la la . . .
I feel dizzy,
I feel tipsy,
Even though I didn't drink anything,
And so tired,
Simon Fields can just resign!
La la la la
See the tired guy in that mirror there:
Friends: What mirror where?
Who can that fatigued guy be?
Which? What? Where? Whom?
Such a tired face,
Such a tired back,
Such a tired mind,
Such a tired me!
Such a tired me!
I feel taxing,
And numbing,
I feel like Collapsing for fools,
For I go
To a stressful debate camp and School!



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^submitted by: Phillip Nori Parks



^submitted by: Maddi Picard

The Omen's Peanut Gallery of [helpful?] advice on legal matters:

28s: @masklayer @FstewartT @jgardsaysthings @tungolum @silby
 @friendshipskull @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho
 @GSWilleyThe13th I cantfit B

46s: @masklayer @infogab_ @FstewartT @jgardsaysthings
 @tungolum @friendshipskull @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae
 @AnotherEcho @GSWilleyThe13th hi

2m: @FstewartT @jgardsaysthings @tungolum @silby
 @friendshipskull @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho
 @GSWilleyThe13th hey @masklayer sorry

1m: @FstewartT @tungolum @sxeli_ @silby @friendshipskull
 @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho @GSWilleyThe13th
 entire tweet with handles

1m: @infogab_ @FstewartT @jgardsaysthings @tungolum @silby
 @friendshipskull @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho
 @GSWilleyThe13th Hi

2m: @FstewartT @tungolum @sxeli_ @silby @friendshipskull
 @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho @GSWilleyThe13th The
 Dream is having to fill an

2m: @jgardsaysthings @FstewartT @tungolum @sxeli_
 @friendshipskull @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho
 @GSWilleyThe13th so what happened

3m: @FstewartT @tungolum @sxeli_ @silby @friendshipskull
 @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho @GSWilleyThe13th oh
 yeah grace join the party

7m: @tungolum @FstewartT @sxeli_ @silby @friendshipskull
 @daxelkurtz @ianmcorvidae @AnotherEcho they're figuring it out, it'll
 be fine

[^]Submitted by: Jonathan Gardner

HOW PACMAN STARTED

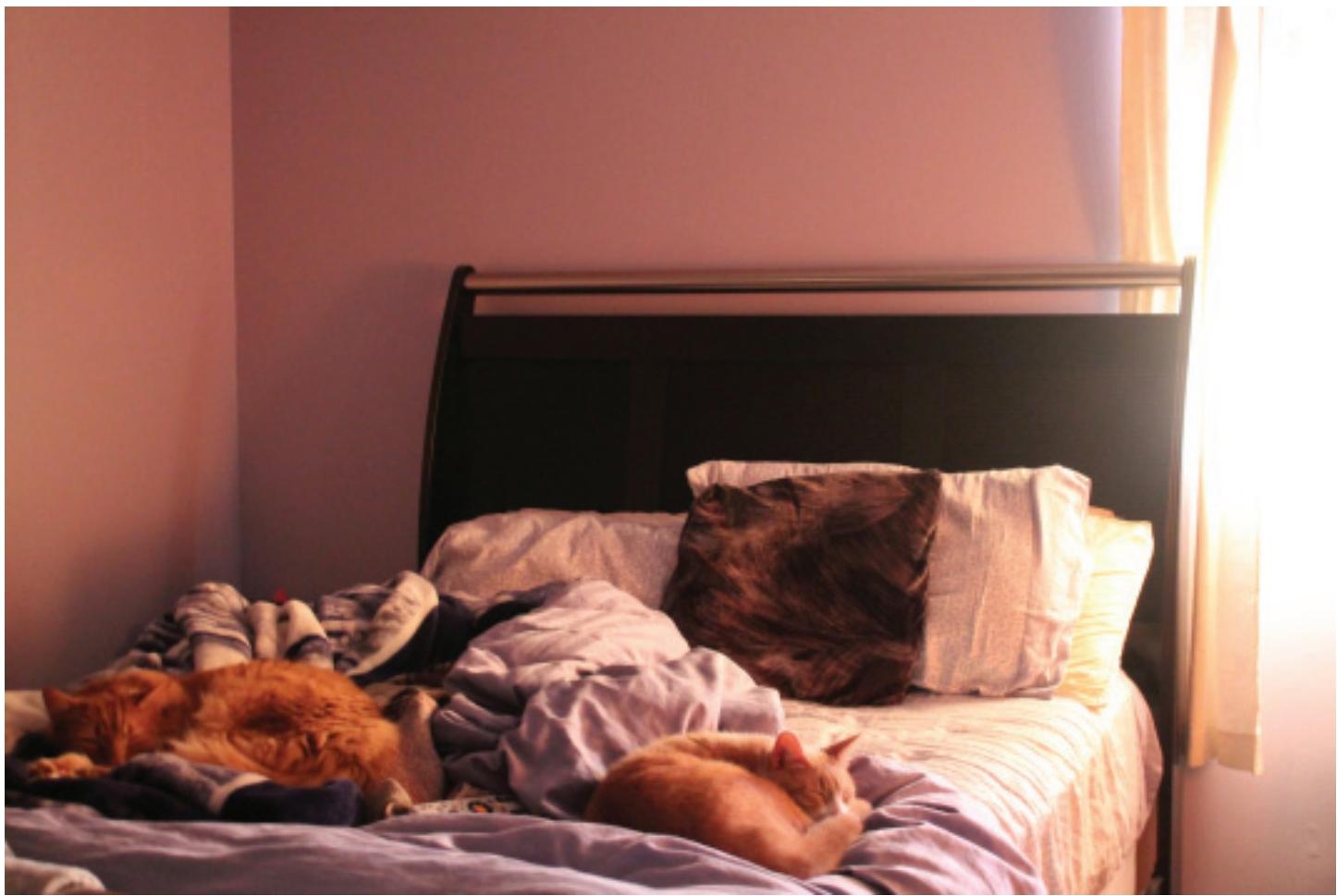
REJSIA CAMPFLO



HUAH!!! HUOUWUUAAA!!!

D-D-D-DOUBLE MERMAID!!! IT'S A REAL
LIFE DOUBLE MERMAID! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT ACTUALLY
EXISTS! A LEGENDARY CREATURE WITH THE TOP HALF OF
A FISH AND THE BOTTOM HALF OF A FISH!
THIS DOUBLE MERMAID IS GOING TO MAKE
ME MILLIONS!!!





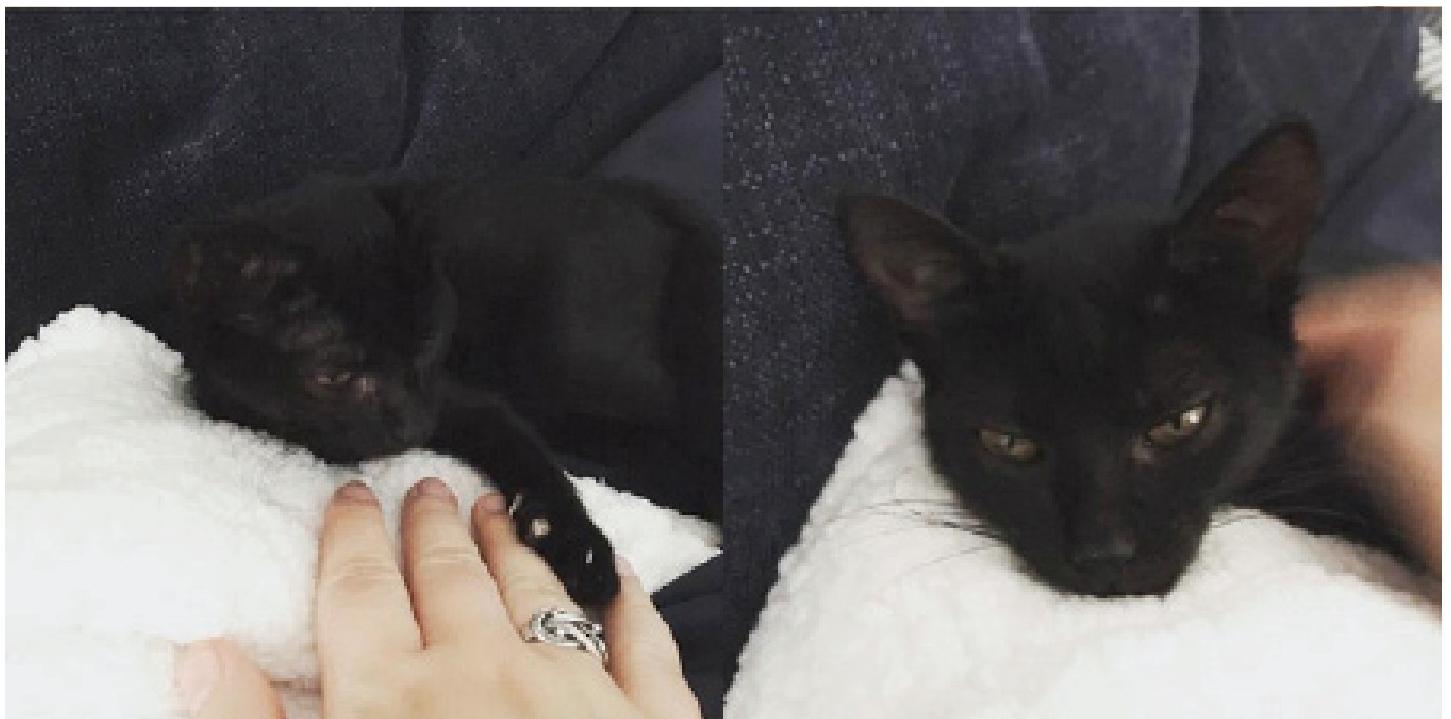
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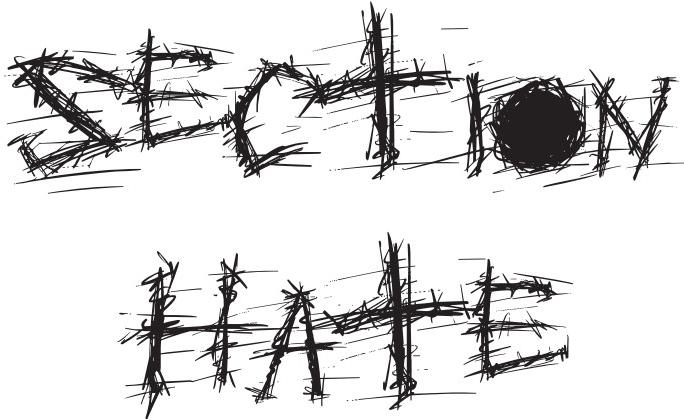
^submitted by: Jonathan Gardner



CATS-SECTION CATS-SECTION CATS



^submitted by: Jonathan Gardner



I DO NOT Hate the Howler
(I just don't understand it)
by Chloe Omelchuck

I do understand that the Howler's aim is to publish 'serious' and 'journalistic' articles about things that are happening on campus. I understand that its function is not to be a 'magazine' like the Omen is, and to publish more frequently and more relevantly. However, I still don't really get why the Howler is a separate entity from the Omen.

Perhaps I would understand it more if the Howler took itself a little more seriously. The single-page publication is nice and concise- it's less intimidating than the 20-plus page issues of the Omen. However, in order to retain this "short and sweet" format, they cut off the end of their articles and make them viewable via QR code. This is a poor solution. Who goes to the effort of scanning a QR code just to read the rest of an article about... well, anything really? The Howler should publish their entire articles so that people can read them easily.

The serious and journalism-focussed mission of the Howler is commendable. But why did they have to start a whole new publication to pursue it? The Omen already publishes everything that's submitted to it. All you need to do is submit more serious and journalistic articles to make the Omen into a [somewhat] respectable magazine as well. Also, if all the content used in the Howler was submitted to the Omen, we would probably have enough content to publish more often and students wouldn't have to go to two different

publications to get the complete package of not only the campus news, but the campus voice.

When I found the Omen for the first time last year, I thought it was a really great thing that anyone could submit anything. I didn't see it as a joke or as somehow 'less serious' than something where submissions are selectively published. Sure, those kinds of publications might have more visible prestige because they only publish 'the best stuff,' but I think that the complete picture is much preferable to what some people think are important topics.

RESISTANCE IS FUTILE



^submitted by: Bryan Prieto

DO YOU HATE QR CODES

If so, submit to the Omen! If not, you should submit to the Omen — we hate QR codes so you don't have to.

What's the relation between [this travesty](#) → and your beloved Omen?

Absolutely nothing. Except that we hate them.



Unlike the Howler, which is very limited on space and so has to use [these fuckers](#) ^ to publish the rest of their articles, the Omen never runs out of space; we'll publish the whole whatever it is you send us (as long as it's not libel and/or anonymous). Do you ever follow through on those links? Do you even have a QR code reader on your phone? Do you even have a phone?* I can't, personally, remember the last time I opened a QR code.

Let's be clear: the Omen DOES NOT hate the Howler — y'all are no Climax, after all! What we hate is:

- 1) QR codes
- 2) not having content
- 3) ~~all unexpelled omen~~

We know you hate them, too.



Submit to the Omen.

*no? what kind of millennial are you 😊



^submitted by: Shelley Rosen

Admit it: You've missed the Elvidillos haven't you?

Around the Globe/Past/Present

Semester: Spring **Year:** 2017

Subject Name: Critical Social Inquiry

Course Number: 0308

Institution: Hampshire College

This course will focus on biologically female bodies and how they are impacted by cultural discourses around the globe and through time and space. From Lucy to Malala Yousafzai females have been seen as compromised by their reproductive capacity. From menstruation to menopause the development of a uterine economy has regulated female in all areas of life. This class aims to unpack many of the issues females around the world face, in the past and present. Through an examination of a wide-range of issues focused on the life-cycle; birth, menstruation, contraception, education, identity, conception, pregnancy, menopause and death. Students will consider the larger contexts that dis-able females and consider new models can recast morbidity and mortality and ultimately reveal the larger constellation of inequity that is often shadowed by assumptions of reproductive fragility

Comments:

Independent Work Writing and Research Students are expected to spend at least six to eight hours a week of preparation and work outside of class time.

Instructor Permission: Permission is required for interchange registration during all registration periods.

URL: https://evals.hampshire.edu/AJAX/PUBLIC_showCourseInfo.cgi?EV_sec=322880

Schedule #: 322880

Around the Globe/Past/Present

Sect #	Credits	Instructor(s)	Instructor Email	Meeting Times	Location
1	4.0	Pamela Stone	pksNS@hampshire.edu	01:00PM-03:50PM M	Franklin Patterson Hall 102

LOOK AT THIS FLAKY-ASS
MOTHERFUCKER JANICE RAYMOND-
LITE GLUTEN-FREE TERF SHIT
LIKE THIS ISN'T FUCKING MT
HOLYOKE MEET ME IN THE PIT
HAMPSHIRE I'M NOT EVEN KIDDING
- SUBMITTED BY SPENCER WOOD-

OMEN COLORS

HAVE STOPPED RESPONDING

Adam Welch ©

^submitted by: Bryan Prieto

